



UNIVERSITY OF
LINCOLN

DISCOVER 2018:

*Publicly engaged
research at Lincoln*



Communication across cultures: an international student-led conference

World Hello Day' aims to promote peace all over the world, bridge barriers between every nationality, promote tolerance and understanding and to create a better place to live for everyone by encouraging people to get to know each other... starting by saying "hello". 'Communication across Cultures' was the second in a series of annual conferences organised by **Dr. Valeria Carroll** in the School of Health and Social Care as part of 'World Hello Day' in Lincoln.

The Lincoln event aimed to involve students, practitioners, academics and members of the general public. BSc Health and Social Care students were responsible for conference organisation and evaluation, while discussion workshops were run by MSc Social Work students. A programme including guest speakers, workshops, poster displays and stands explored themes including 'Globalisation versus Brexit: International Students' Experiences' (Dr. Valeria Carroll), 'Young People's Experience of Adapting to a New Country' (Dr. Karen Pfeffer), 'A Personal Perspective on

HE Education in Russia' (Dr. Aidan Jayanth), 'Delivering Ambulance Service Care that meets the Needs of Eastern European Migrants in Lincolnshire (Mr Viet-Hai Phung)' and an Italian contribution on 'Teachers' Values: Friends or Foes' (Ms Lucia Bombieri) comparing schools in Russia and Italy. Student research posters included topics such as using memory strategies in Saudi Arabian middle schools, communicating road safety guidance through the internet, nurses' age perceptions and the experiences of child stars. The conference was opened by the Mayor of Lincoln, Chris Burke and attended by approximately 350 delegates including members of the public, representatives of the community engagement team, representatives of charities and voluntary centre services, as well as University of Lincoln students.

Key references and further reading

[1] Event website: cacc.blogs.lincoln.ac.uk

How Lincoln became the capital of earth architecture

Dr. Marcin Mateusz Kolakowski's (Lincoln School of Architecture and the Built Environment) research focusses on natural architecture - constructing buildings made of unprocessed materials such as straw, earth, bamboo or timber etc – exploring the relationship the natural building movement has with social dynamics and culture, focussing on the Lincolnshire 'mud and stud' design.

EBUKI Clayfest Conference

For a week in July 2017 Lincoln became the British and Irish capital of earth architecture thanks to the annual EBUKI (Earth Building UK and Ireland) Clayfest conference taking place at the Heritage Skills Centre at Lincoln Castle and the University of Lincoln. People from across Lincolnshire were able to attend workshops, trips, showcases and talks on the emerging science of clay from the most prominent British and Irish experts and enthusiasts in natural architecture, aiming to inform and change perceptions of earth architecture. Clayfest offered an opportunity for networking, collaboration and discussion around future projects. The event also provided allowed researchers to gather qualitative and quantitative data in the form of interviews and questionnaires.

One highlight of the Clayfest showcase was Dr. Kolakowski's lecture on his research into mud and stud buildings accompanied by a visit to a small experimental building 'Hexagonium'. This 6-walled construction at the University of Lincoln campus was produced by School

of Architecture students in collaboration with the East Midlands Earth Structure Society (EMESS). The aim was to investigate whether mud and stud buildings could comply with modern building regulations, a common question amongst local natural builders. A variety of different construction methods were being used so their insulation properties could be compared in this 'open air laboratory', whose findings will produce practical guidelines for local builders and inform the building of a new mud and stud building at the Village Museum in Skegness.

The conference with its showcases had a significant impact in promoting local natural architecture, inspiring new research and attracting thousands of visitors. A small model of a mud and stud building was constructed in Lincoln Castle grounds as a physical reminder that Lincolnshire should be known not only for its prominent Gothic cathedral but for its vernacular clay architecture, which also makes ingenious use of local materials and has fascinating past and potential future.

Key references and further reading

[1] Conference programme: ebuki.co/Conference%20Programme-08-06-2017.pdf

[2] Hexagonium project details: naturalarchitecture.blogs.lincoln.ac.uk/hexagonium

[3] EMESS website: mudandstud.blogspot.com